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Message Text

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ACTION SCI-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-03 EA-07 FRB-01 INR-10 IO-03 NEA-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-02 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-01 SIL-01 SWF-01

OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 L-02 OIC-01

DLOS-03 CEQ-01 COA-01 DODE-00 EPA-01 NSF-01 NSC-07

PM-03 SS-14 FEAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 DRC-01 (ISO) W
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TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 3844

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E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: SENV, OECD
SUBJECT: OECD MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS,
NOVEMBER 13-14, 1974. POLLUTER PAYS PRINCIPLE

REF: (A) STATE 218310 (B) STATE 218472 (C) STATE 211376,
PARA 3 B.

1. SUMMARY: EXCOM DISCUSSED ACTION PROPOSAL ON THE POLLUTER PAYS PRINCIPLE. REMAINING QUESTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY COUNCIL OCTOBER 15. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. EXCOM CONSIDERATION OF PPP ON OCTOBER 4 RESULTED IN FOLLOWING CHANGES:

3. PARA I-2. TURKISH PROPOSAL ACCEPTED AS PER REFTEL (A).

4. PARA II-2. AUSTRALIAN ADDITION WITHDRAWN; MINUTES WILL NOTE THAT AUSTRALIA CONSIDERS PARA II-2 INTERPRETED
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IN ACCORDANCE WITH WITHDRAWN AMENDMENT; I.E. "SUCH

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ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE REGARDED AS ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE..
..." ETC.

5. PARA II-3. PARA TO READ AS FOLLOWS:"AID GIVEN FOR
THE PURPOSE OF STIMULATING EXPERI M ENTATION WITH NEW
POLLUTION-CONTROL TECHNOLOGIES AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW
POLLUTION-ABATEMENT EQUIPMENT IS NOT NECESSARILY
INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE POLLUTER-PAYS PRINCIPLE."

6. PARA II-4. ITALIANS PRESSED STRONGLY TO RETAIN
BRACKETED PHRASE "SUCH AS REDUCTION OF INTERREGIONAL
IMBALANCES" AS EXAMPLE OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC POLICY. GERMANY,
US, JAPAN, DENMARK AND OTHERS OPPOSED. NETHERLANDS
PROPOSED ALTERNATE PHRASE "SUCH AS THE REDUCTION OF
SERIOUS REGIONAL DIFFICULTIES." ITALY COMPROMISED WITH
NETHERLANDS IN POST-EXCOM MEETING WITH BRACKETED PHRASE
"SUCH AS THE REDUCTION OF SERIOUS INTERREGIONAL
IMBALANCES." RESOLUTION OF THIS MATTER LEFT OPEN FOR
COUNCIL.

7. PARA III-2B. TO BE CONSIDERED IN COUNCIL IN TWO
VERSIONS, THE FIRST SHORTENED TO "IT SHOULD BE LIMITED
TO WELL-DEFINED TRANSITIONAL PERIODS, LAID DOWN IN
ADVANCE". THE SECOND VERSION CONTINUES WITH THE
PHRASE "AND ADAPTED TO THE SPECIFIC SOCIO-ECONOMIC
PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A
COUNTRY'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM." UK, ON INSTRUCTIONS
IN RESPONSE TO US INTERPRETATION OF SENTENCE (REF.C),
SAID THAT UK INTENDS TO SPECIFY LENGTH OF TIME AID TO BE
GIVEN AND THIS WAS SENSE IN WHICH THEY INTERPRETED
SENTENCE. AUSTRALIA SUPPORTED VIEW THAT TIME PERIOD
SHOULD "IN GENERAL" BE SPECIFIED. US REP SAID DATES
NOT EXCLUDED BUT REITERATED THAT IN SOME CASES PERIOD
MAY BE DEFINED AS TIME NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE GIVEN
TECHNICAL OBJECTIVE. POSSIBILITY REMAINS THAT
CONTRASTING US AND UK INTERPRETATIONS WILL BOTH BE IN
RECORD.

8. PARA III-2 (C). CANADIAN AMENDMENT WITHDRAWN.

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9. PARA III-3. JAPAN REQUESTED THAT WORDING REVERT
FROM THAT IN C(74)158 ANNEX IX 1ST REVISION TO THE
UNREVISED VERSION, I.E. TO READ "IN EXCEPTIONAL
CASES" RATHER THAN "IN CASES OF EXCEPTIONAL DIFFICULTY".

10. PARA III-4. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON THE FOLLOWING
WORDING FOR FIRST SENTENCE OF PARA 4: "IN ACCORDANCE
WITH APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES TO BE WORKED OUT, ALL

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PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE BE NOTIFIED TO MEMBER
COUNTRIES THROUGH THE OECD SECRETARIAT." NO CHANGE
IN SECOND SENTENCE.
TURNER

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